

Portland Mississippi and Overlook

In a 2-mile loop starting at beautiful, blufftop Overlook Park, walk a pedestrian bridge over I-5 to the vibrant neighborhood restaurants, shops and galleries along historic N Mississippi Avenue.

Begin at Overlook Park, at N Interstate Avenue and Fremont Street. Walk across Fremont to the east side of Interstate and begin walking north on Interstate. At Overlook Boulevard is the Kaiser Town Hall, a neighborhood meeting place named for nearby Kaiser Permanente, which first came to Overlook in 1959 with the Bess Kaiser Medical Center. Continue north. At Failing is St. Stanislaus Church, the heart of Portland's Polish community. From Interstate, turn right on Failing and cross the I-5 pedestrian bridge.

Once over the bridge, walk east on Failing two blocks to Mississippi. Turn right and shop and eat as you walk south, passing the ReBuilding Center at 3625, a project of the community-run Our United Villages. The center's donated inventory changes hourly, recycling an estimated 10 tons per day of construction waste; it is the largest nonprofit used building materials resource in North America.

From Mississippi, turn left on Fremont, then left on Albina. Walk two blocks to Failing, turn left and then right on Mississippi. At Skidmore is the John Palmer House, a spectacular 1898 Queen Anne home.

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2.1 miles

4435 steps

difficulty

45.547, -122.681

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From Mississippi, turn left on Skidmore and walk west across I-5. At Interstate, turn left and return to the starting point at Overlook Park or take the MAX from the Prescott Station (just north of Skidmore) south to the station at Overlook Park.

A Look Back at Overlook

The Overlook area was home beginning in the late 1800s to Northern European immigrants who came to work in the Albina rail yards, which are visible below the bluff at Overlook Park. St. Stanislaus Church was built in 1907 by the area's many Polish immigrants, and the Kaiser Town Hall began life in the early 1900s as a Finnish lodge and social center. The light towers at the Overlook Park MAX station are reminiscent of roadside shrines in Poland. Each September, St. Stanislaus serves up 70,000 pierogis at its Polish Festival, the largest on the West Coast.



A Queen Anne home in Overlook



